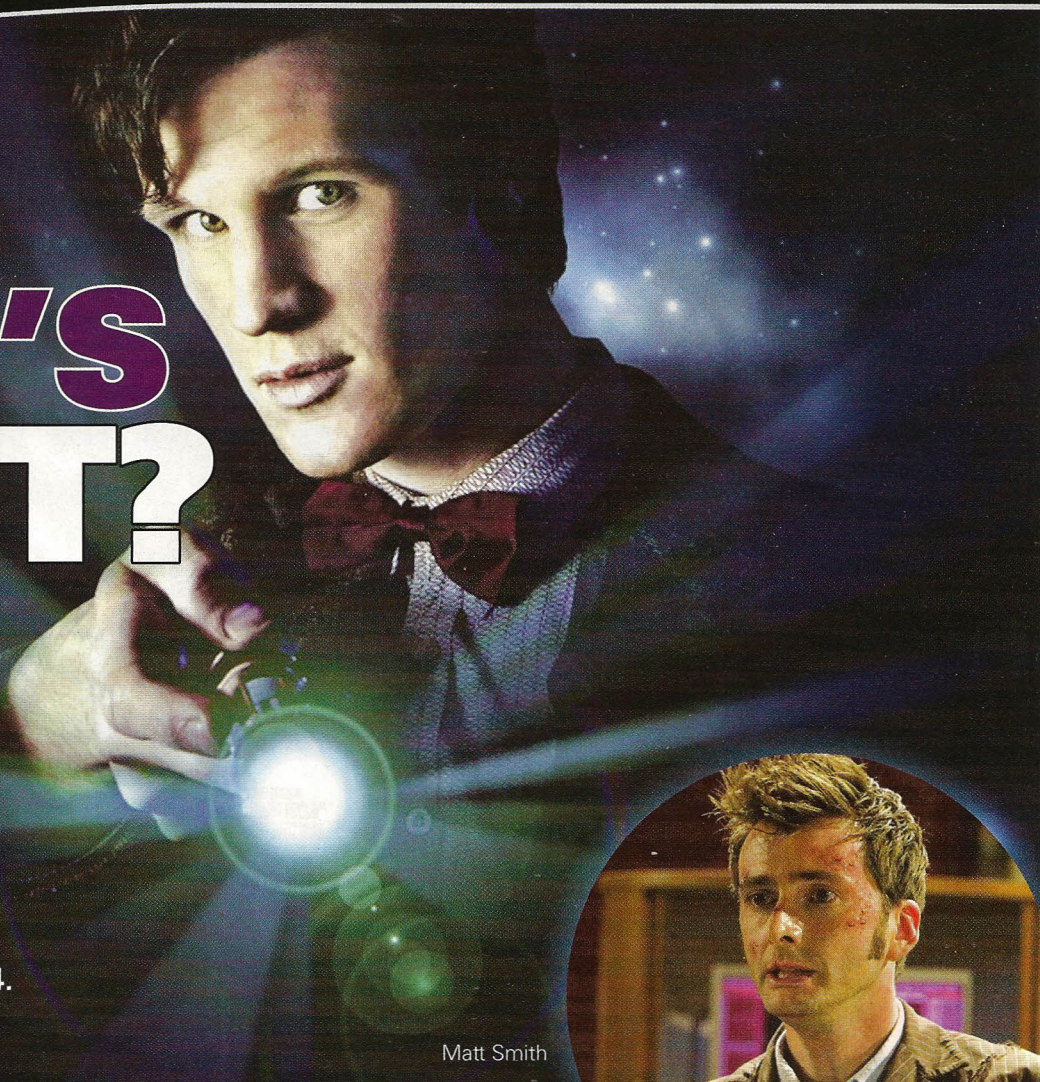


# WHO'S NEXT?

Having created one of the most popular incarnations of TV's travelling Time Lord, David Tennant's tenure as DOCTOR WHO comes to an end in the two-part story THE END OF TIME, out on DVD and Blu-ray on March 4.



Matt Smith



David Tennant

In 2005, writer and Executive Producer Russell T. Davies regenerated the BBC's long running sci-fi series for a new generation.

The result was an astounding success with both longtime fans and newcomers to the series.

When new Doctor Christopher Eccleston called it quits after only one season, the relatively unknown David Tennant was the man chosen to fill his sizeable shoes. Tennant's portrayal was quickly embraced, mixing several traits of his predecessors – the boyish appeal of Peter Davison, the eccentricity of Patrick Troughton and Tom Baker, and the heroic quality of Jon Pertwee – while making the role his own.

In the latest story, *The End of Time*, Tennant's days are numbered after his arch nemesis The Master (John Simm) is resurrected. But something else from the Doctor's past is also returning, a threat that will result in the titular cataclysm and the Doctor's regeneration.

"I've had the most brilliant, bewildering and life-changing time working on *Doctor Who*,"

Tennant comments. "I have loved every day of it... It would be very easy to cling onto the TARDIS console forever..."

Replacing Tennant in one of British television's most coveted roles is the youthful Matt Smith, 26, who has played opposite former *Who* companion Billie Piper in the Phillip Pullman detective stories, *The Ruby in the Smoke* and *The Shadow in the North*. Smith is the youngest actor to date to play the Doctor.

"I'm just so excited about the journey that is front of me," said Smith, following the announcement of his appointment from the BBC early last year. "The challenge for me is to do justice to the show's illustrious past, my predecessors, and most importantly, to those who watch it."

It's not just Tennant's departure and Smith's arrival that heralds another new era for *Doctor*



The Master (John Simm)

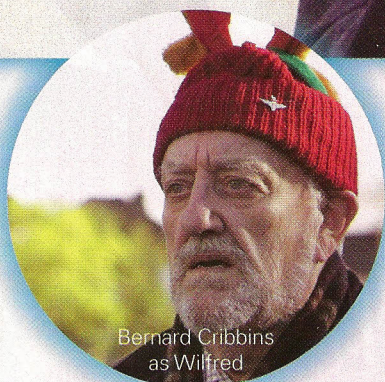


WHO'S  
NEXT?

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Ood Sigma

Bernard Cribbins  
as Wilfred

**"Steven [Moffat] has a wonderful mix of being a committed *Doctor Who* fan and a true artist, and his plans for the next series are totally thrilling."**

*Who*; Russell T. Davies is also leaving the series after five years overseeing the creative direction and detail of the 21st century *Who*.

For the show's fifth season which will begin screening in the UK this Easter, BAFTA and Hugo Award-winning writer Stephen Moffat has taken the reigns as Lead Writer and Executive Producer.

It's an excellent and obvious choice by the BBC; Moffat has penned some of the series most memorable episodes including *Blink*, *The Empty Child* and *Silence in the Library*.

"I can't wait to see where his extraordinary imagination takes the Doctor," said Davies of Moffat's appointment. "Best of all, I get to be a viewer again, watching on a Saturday night."

"The TARDIS couldn't be in safer hands," added Julie Tranter, Controller, BBC fiction. "Steven's talents on both *Doctor Who* and beyond are

well known. He is a writer of glittering brilliance, comedy and depth, with an extraordinary imagination and a unique voice.

"Steven has a wonderful mix of being a committed *Doctor Who* fan and a true artist, and his plans for the next series are totally thrilling."

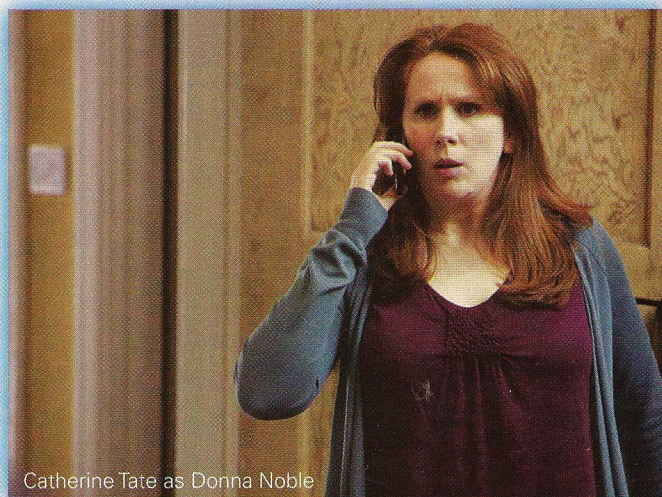
Those plans include the return of the terrifying Weeping Angels from *Blink*, a vampire tale, and the inevitable reappearance of the Daleks. Moreover, despite initial concerns from fans that Smith is too young to play the legendary Time Lord, Moffat has complete confidence in his new leading man's ability.

"The Doctor is a very special part, and it takes a very special actor to play him," he said. "You need to be old and young at the same time, a boffin and an action hero, a cheeky schoolboy and the wise old man of the universe."

"As soon as Matt walked through the door, and blew us away with a bold and brand new take on the Time Lord, we knew we had our man."

Fans can catch a tantalising glimpse of Smith in the conclusion to the two part adventure *The End of Time*. □

• ***Doctor Who: The End of Time* is available on DVD and Blu-ray on March 4.**



Catherine Tate as Donna Noble